THE

Athenian Gazette:

OR

CASUISTICAL MERCURY

Resolving all the most

Nice and Curious Questions.

PROPOSED BY THE

INGENIOUS

Of Either SEX:

From *Tuesday Decemb.* 1. to *Saturday January* 30th, 1691.

The Fifth Volume,

TREATING

On the several Subjects mentioned in the CONTENTS at the Beginning of the Book.

LONDON,

Printed for *John Dunton*, at the *Raven* in the *Poultry*. Where is to be had the *First, Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Volumes* of the *Athenian Gazette*, (and the *Supplements to 'em*,) beginning *March* 17th, and ending *January* 30th, 1691. (Or single Ones to this Time.)

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LONDON:

THE PREFACE TO The Fifth Volume.

WE have now finiſht the Fifth Volume, *and the Supplement to* it *is preparing for the Preſs, which when perfected, it will compleat our entire SETT* for one Year, *which will be bound up all together, or in ſeparate Volumes.*

We have taken a new Method about our future Supplements, *deſigning henceforward to make 'em up of the* Natural and Artificial Rarities of *England* and other Countries; *wherein we have already made a conſiderable Progreſs, and ſhall ſoon give you a* Scheme *of it*; *which, as it is an Undertaking that ſecures a* Correſpondence *from all Places in* England, *&c. and with the* Ingenious *of ſuch Places*; *ſo it won't be only a ſatisfaction to all ſuch Perſons as have neither time nor opportunity to enquire of ſuch things, but alſo to ſuch Perſons of every* particular County, *when they ſhall ſee both their own and their Neighbour Countreys Curioſities together.*

As for the Subject of paſt Supplements; *viz. an Abridgment of* all Valuable Books Printed here in *England*, as alſo a Tranſlation of ſuch Abridgments as we find of Moment in the Univerſal Bibliotheque, Journal des Scavans, &c. *our future Supplements will not ſupplant ſuch an Uſeful Undertaking, and ſo advantagious to the Publick, ſince they will yet be carried on by our* Bookſeller *and Mr.* Bennet *in* Paul's *Church Yard, and be perform'd by* Monſieur de la Croſe, *a late Author of the* Univerſal Bibliotheque.

The Diſputes which we have maintain'd againſt the Anabaptiſts, *and which makes up ſo great a part of our laſt Twelve Numbers, have dependance on the* Fourteen and Eighteen Numbers *of the* Fourth Volume, *which will be of Uſe to ſuch as have any Doubts about the Validity of* Infant Baptiſm; *for here they may ſee all that ever has been urg'd by the* Anabaptiſts, *either Antient or Modern upon the Subject, with a full Anſwer to 'em all.*

Our Young Students Library *is in the Preſs, in which you will find ſome Original Pieces (mentioned by Mr.* de la Croſe *in his Works of the Learned for* January *laſt) one about the* Pointing of the Mazore, *which tho' we have been much importun'd to Print ſeparate, we thought we could not oblige any Perſons more than thoſe for whoſe Uſe the whole*

is

is deſign'd, and therefore we will rather let the World have recourſe to the Young Students Treaſure, *than the* Young Students *to what is common to the World. But we ſhall not publiſh our General Table for this Year* 1691. *till the* Young Students Library *comes out of the Preſs, when we deſign to collect not only the Contents of all our* Mercuries *and* Supplements *hitherto Printed, but alſo the particular Treatiſes of our* Young Students Library.

We ſhall always keep to our Old Method of Printing Eighteen Numbers ſucceſſively, and the other Twelve together which compleat Thirty, our Firſt Number for a Volume; and ſhall make five Volumes and Supplements to 'em, the Complement of one Year, to which there ſhall always be annext a General Table *Alphabetically digeſted for a more orderly finding out any Queſtion or Subject whatever treated of.*

We have nothing elſe to offer but a word or two to our Queriſts, which is to tell 'em that we deſire 'em, as near as they can, to obſerve thoſe Rules we have laid down in the Preface to our Second and Fourth Volumes, *in doing which they will both ſave themſelves the trouble of diſappointments, and our Bookſeller the labour of any more Advertiſements to that end.*

We ſhall only add, that our Queriſts *look upon moſt Advertiſements as coming from our Bookſeller, for that is not our buſineſs ſo properly as his, nor are we to anſwer for what lies in his Province, whether he ask our Advice in it or no, tho' we have little reaſon to blame him in any thing of that nature, if every thing were examin'd without prejudice; for thoſe that will act rationally in their Cenſures of any thing, ought to ſuſpend their Judgment till they know every Circumſtance that modifies the Matter of Fact.*

ADVERTISEMENT.

THE *Works of the Learned*; or, An *Hiſtorical* Account, and Impartial Judgment of *Books* newly Printed, both Foreign and Domeſtick; as alſo the *State of Learning* in the World, to be Publiſh'd Monthly. *January*, 169½. *By J. de la Croſe*, a late Author of the Univerſal and *Hiſtorical* Bibliotheque.

London Printed for *John Dunton* at the *Raven* in the *Poultrey*. 1692.

The

THE CONTENTS OF THE The Fifth Volume.

IS *there ever a* Poet *among the Athenian Society, and ſuppoſe a Queſtion ſhould be ſent in* Verſe, *ſhould it be anſwer'd in the ſame?* Q. 1. N. 1

Who is the beſt Engliſh Satyriſt *now living?* q. 2. n. 1

Do the Modern Engliſh Dramatique Writers excel moſt, or thoſe of the laſt Age? q.3. n.1

Is there any deceit in a Brimmer? q.4.n.1

Whether Songs on Moral, Religious or Divine Subjects, compoſed by Perſons of Wit and Virtue, *and ſet to both grave and pleaſant Tunes, would not by the Charms of Poetry, and ſweetneſs of Muſick, make good Impreſſions of Modeſty and Sobriety on the Young and Noble?* q.5.n.1

To the Author of the late Famous Paſtoral Poem. n. 1

In Diſcourſe with a Perſon diſaffected to the Government, concerning a famous Book *not long ſince written in the defence thereof.* q.6. n.1

Whom do you think the beſt Dramatique Profeſſor in this Age? q.1.n.2

I can with a four-ounce Hammer drive a double Ten into a thick Plank up to the head, but if I take four Tun weight, and poizing it exactly, put it upon the ſame Nail in the ſame Plank, it will not force it up to the head; what may be the Reaſon of this difference? q.2.n.2

How big are Spirits, ſince 'tis ſaid that our Saviour caſt a Legion of 'em out of a Man? q.3.n.2

A Gentleman and a Lady in the Countrey, being Neighbours, not under Parents or Guardians, but both free, and at their own Diſpoſals, did ſettle their Affections each on other, in order to Marriage. q 4. n.2

An intimate Friend of mine after having ſtrong deſires to, and promiſe of Marriage had been made him by his Miſtreſs, received a very unkind Letter from her, which threw him into ſuch a violent paſſion, that upon the reading on't, his Noſe guſht out with Blood, and his Eyes with Tears. q.5. n.2

About the Year 83. I found at Richmond *upon* Thames *a living Creature in the Water.* q.6.n.2

In the Firſt of Geneſis *'tis ſaid, That on the firſt day God ordained the day and night,* &c. *and on the fourth day he made two great Lights, the Sun and Moon,* &c. q.7.n.2

A Lady not Learned, but having Children, and being deſirous her ſelf to enter 'em early into the knowledge of things, deſires the Athenian Society *to anſwer theſe following Queries for her reſolution therein.*

1. *What Heads of things is it beſt to enter Children in when they begin to Learn?*
2. *What particular Branches or Members under thoſe ſeveral Heads?*
3. *Which is the beſt way of referring what they meet with in their obſervation or reading to thoſe Heads which they have been before inſtructed in?* q.1. n.3

Is the Soul of Woman inferiour to the Soul of Man? and if ſo, will his Superiority continue eternally? q 2. n.3

Who are wiſeſt, thoſe that Marry for Love, or for Convenience? q.3.n.3

A Lady that's extreamly troubled with Corns, deſires to know the Reaſon? q.4. n.3

As within this week I was travelling between Kenford, *and* Bury *St.* Edmonds, *I was unfortunately ſet on by three Men* in Diſguiſe, *who not finding their expected Booty, were ſo incenſed as to rifle me of all my Cloaths, and were ſending me home naked.* q.1. n.4

What Language was ſpoken by our firſt Parents in Paradiſe? q. 2. n 4

How came the two Diſciples to know Moſes and Elias in the Mount? q. 3. n 4

Whether Methuſelah *was the longeſt liver, or not?* q.4. n.4

Is not the Sun a Maſs of liquid Gold, cupellated by the Influence of the fix'd Stars? q.5. n.4

Whether ever the Sun has been totally eclips'd. q.6. n.4

The Anſwer in your laſt Mercury to the Queſtion concerning the Suns Eclipſe. q.1 n.5

In my Minority I married a Lady contrary to the knowledge of our Parents, and now I'm grown to a ſtate of Maturity. q.2. n.5

Balaam *being a Moabite, how could he underſtand the Aſs ſpeaking unto him in* Hebrew? q.3.n.5

What was it that Eve *ſpun?* q 4. n.5

A Lady affirmed their Sex to be more excellent than Mans, becauſe, let a Man waſh his hands never ſo often, there will be ſome ſettled Dirt in the Water, and that 'tis not ſo when a Woman waſhes. q 5 n.5

A word or two to the Anabaptiſts. n. 5

A

A Young Man that was an Apprentice in the Parish of St. Giles Cripplegate *London, his Master and he had some difference, whereupon he went away from him*; q. 1. n. 6

What is the cause of the Flux and Reflux of the Sea? q. 2. n. 6

I have sent you this true Relation, which I had from two Gentlewomen Lodgers in the house of one who keeps a Chandlers shop in Berry-street, *St.* James's, *as followeth: About the 25th. of the last month, about break of day* Mrs. E— *went to open the street door, which she did, and just without it found a tallow Candle (as fair as a wax one) burning, the end turn'd up very finely some 6 or 7 inches long, which she put out, and laid by.* q. 3. n. 6

I am no stranger to our common practice of using Equivocations in Oaths. q. 4. n. 6

A certain Old Woman pretending her self to be a Fortune-teller came the last week into a certain house at Bristol, *and having some discourse with the Mistress of the house, told her of many Truths concerning the Family, which was impossible for the Old Woman to know, had she not been a Witch.* q. 5. n. 6

You affirm Vol. 1. N. 8. Q. 3. *That a Rational Soul is distinguishable by its actions, and if a Monster can Number, Discourse in Questions and Answers, that such a Monster hath a rational Soul, and shall be accountable in the Day of Judgment for its Actions.* q. 6. n. 6

Page 247 in Howels Letters. *we have an account that in* Valentia *in* Spain *a proper Young Man under* 20 *was executed there for a Crime.* q. 7. n. 6

Whether three Suns really appeared ever at once. q. 8. n. 6

In Page 71, Dallison's Aphorisms, *he affirms, That while the Crocodile sleeps with open mouth the Indian Ratt shoots himself into his Belly, and gnaws his Guts asunder: Your thoughts whether there be any thing of reality in it?* q. 9. n. 6

A certain Vertuoso *affirms, that in Rain is contained Salt, and that if the unprofitable parts by which it is involved be taken away by distillation, a Salt as white as Sugar may be found: Your Thoughts whether it is so or no?* q. 10. n. 6

In Dallison's Aphorisms, *page* 277. *He affirms, Lightning ne're hurts the Laurel; Your Opinion of this, which if you assent to, then the Cause of it, why that more preserves than other Trees?* q. 11 n 6

I had the Fortune to be joyned in Matrimony to a Man who had another Wife and Children by her, which Idiscovering, brought an Indictment against him, and cast him at the Old-Baily *for his Life, after which I begg'd he might be transported, which was granted.* q. 12 n. 6

Whether the Force and Virtues of the old Egyptian Talismans, and their other Magical Operations were true and real, or only Imaginary, or Illusion? q. 1. n. 7

What Wind in our Body is, whence it proceeds, and what are the true Remedies for it? q. 2. n. 7

Which is the best Text extant of the Old Testament, the Vulgar, Hebrew, or the Septuagint? q. 3. n. 7

Whether there be any Specifick Cure for the Biting of a Viper, or of a Mad Dog, and what? q. 4. n. 7

How the Blood circulates in a Body whose Legs are cut off? q. 5 n. 7

Why no venomous Creature will live in Ireland, Guernsey, *and some smaller Islands?* q. 6. n. 7

Whether there have been Satyrs, Centaurs, or other discoursing Creatures produced between the Race of Men and Brutes. q. 7. n. 7

Whether Japan *be an Island or no?* q. 8. n. 7

What is the fair interpretation of the second and fourth verse of the sixth Chapter of Genesis, *concerning the Sons of God, and the Daughters of Men, and the Generations from them?* q. 9. n. 7

At what time the Creed, commonly called the Apostles Creed, was first compiled and published, by whom, in what place & time? q. 10. n. 7

What is your Opinion concerning the Motion of the Earth or the Sun? I desire neither Reasons nor Authorities, but upon the whole your own Opinion upon this matter? q. 11. n. 7

Whether the Athenian Mercury *be written by one Man? if so, whether of any Progession, and of what Age? if by more, how many, and of what Professions?* q. 12. n. 7

Whether the Antients knew the Mariners Compass? q. 13. n. 7

Whether there's any such thing as the Imputed Righteousness of Christ, by which we are justified, since the Queriſt can find no mention thereof in the New Testament? q. 1. n. 8

Seeing 'tis undeniably allowable by the Laws of God for the Clergy to marry, how comes it to pass that their Wives and Children above all others should prove most unhappy? q. 2. n. 8

Whether there be any example of an Extempore Prayer made before a publick Congregation met together for the publick Worship of God in all the New Testament? q. 3. n. 8.

Suppose a Deaf Man well skill'd in Astronomy and Navigation, should have all his Books and Instruments taken from him, and he put down in the Ships Hold some days before she sets sail, and there be kept close many days after, so that he knoweth not when the Ship set sail. q. 1. n. 9

A Gentlewoman marries, the Husband by Contract is to leave her so much at his Death. q. 2. n. 9

In Vol. 3. N. 24. *Question* 12. *of your Mercury, 'tis asked whether Devils can generate, &c.* q. 3. n. 9

About two months ago I made bold to beg your Opinion concerning a strange Voice calling a person who died soon after, but I find I have not been particular enough to satisfie you that it was not a Dream or Fancy, but a Fault which I run into for fear of being impertinent. q. 4. n. 9

The inclosed was found in the street tyed with the Bone in it, in the manner I have sent it, and brought to me to know what might be the meaning of it. q. 5. n. 9

The

The Queſtion I have to propound to you, I received from ſo good hands, together with the permiſſion of informing you of the very perſon where the Servant-maid lives, that I don't doubt but upon the enquiry you will your ſelves be as well ſatisfied of the truth, as I was before I ventured to ſend it to you q.6.n.9

I have, to maintain my wicked Extravagancies, wrong'd a certain perſon who is now dead, both of Money and other things, for which I being troubled in Conſcience, and ſtruck with a remorſe of my Crime *againſt Almighty God.* q.7. n.9

A Friend of mine is much diſſatisfied, and willing to refer the Caſe to your Society, ſhe having been engag'd to a Gentleman upon the account of Marriage. q.8. n.9

Suppoſe A. B. *and ſome others are concerned for their ſhares in a certain Eſtate whereof* C. *the Son of* B. *by conſent of all parties is made Receiver of the Rents.* q.1. n.10

Was that Angel that appeared to Balaam *in the way, an Angel from Heaven, or an Angel ſent on that purpoſe pictured with a* Flaming Sword? q.2 n.10

What is the Reaſon of the Strake *on every Mules back repreſenting a* Crucifix? q.3. n.10

What is the Cauſe of the continuance of the Bodies of Living Creatures without putrefaction? q.4.n.10

Whether a Forreigners Condition, ſuch I mean as the French Inhabitants with us, who have Liberty to Inhabit or Trade in any part of England? q.5. n.10

Whether 'twould not be a great eaſe to the Nation if they were Naturaliz'd, and bore a part proportionable to their Abilities in the Charges of the War? q.6.n.10

It is thought Mr. S—— *is the Author of thoſe lines in* Num. 1. Vol. 5. *that relate to the late* Paſtoral Poem? q.7. n.10

A Poetical Mercury. n.11

Pray tell us what unlucky Star, d'ye mind it,
Could influence my Temper as you find it?
q.1 n.11

Why is't that Muſick, Rhymes and Dances
Have ſuch Effects upon our Fancies? q.2.n.11

What think you of that Doggrel Prater
That ſteals the name of Obſervator,
And aims at Wit, but comes not at her? q.3.n.11

The greateſt Bleſſing that Mankind can know
Is met with in a ſweet and pleaſing reſt.
q.4. n.1.

The different Accident of Colour ſhows
That different matter doth the Clouds compoſe.
q.5. n.11

Since all our Doctors of Aſtronomy
Maintain the Sun the only Spring to be. q.6.n.11

Say Learn'd Athenians! *how I may improve,*
Or elſe ſecure the Extaſies of Love? q.7. n.11

An Epithalamium. n.11

Looking over Sir William Temple's *Memoirs, I met with a Story in it concerning an old Parrot belonging to the late Prince* Maurice, *that readily anſwered to ſeveral Queſtions promiſcuouſly put to him, which you may more particularly inform your ſelves of.* q.1.n12

Our Jurors (particularly at Juſtice-Hall *in the* Old-Baily) *that try in Caſes of Life and Death, are oblig'd to be (or at leaſt to tell the Court that they are) all of one mind, before they can give, or the Court receive their Verdict.* q.2 n.12

The Tueſday *before* Chriſtmas *day I gave you an account of a Gentlewoman who hath mightily impoveriſht her ſelf and Children by daily relieving the neceſſities of her near Relations, the tenderneſs of her Nature being ſuch, that ſhe could not poſſibly forbear ſupplying their wants whilſt ſhe had a competency, tho' ſhe thought ſhe ſhould ſuffer for it hereafter.* q.3. n.12

Beſides the many groſs Immoralities which have over-ſpread a great part of the Nation, there is a certain Infirmity, *which hath ſeiz'd almoſt all the reſt, which I call the* Prudentials. q.4. n.12

I have long liv'd in an unlawful, tho' ſucceſsful Amour. q.1. n.13

A Gentlewoman that has a Husband who uſed her barbarouſly. q.2.n.13

Suppoſe the Queriſt have a Daughter about twenty years of Age, and a Brother about the ſame Age. q.3. n.13

A Young Man of a very amorous diſpoſition, has had the miſ-fortune to yield to every attack of his Paſſion. q.4. n.13

A Young Man being in Love with a Young Gentlewoman, promis'd her Marriage without the knowledge of his own Parents. q.5.n.13

Why Women are for the moſt part fonder and falſer than Men? q.6. n.13

Whether after Promiſes made between two perſons, they mayn't lawfully leave each other, and accept or court others by mutual Conſent? q.7.n.13

Whether Sappho *or Mrs.* Behn *were the better* Poeteſs? q.8. n.13

Whether Hobbs *or* L'Eſtrange *the better Chriſtian?* q 1. n.14

Whether the Samaritan Character or Vulgar Hebrew be the more antient? q 2. n.14

Whether Milton *and* Waller *were not the beſt Engliſh Poets? and which the better of the two?* q. 3. n.14

Whether the Manna of Calabria *be not the ſame in* Nature *without any* ſpecifick difference, *with that which* Iſrael *had in the Wilderneſs?* q 4. n.14

Whether H. Grotius, Buchannan, *or* Barklay *were the better Latine Poets?* q.5. n.14

There is a Weed which grows among Corn very plentifully, call'd Cats-tail. q.6. n.14

To this we'll add another that's ſomewhat a-kin to't, and then endeavour to anſwer 'em both. What's the reaſon that the Eyes of Beans in the Kid grow downwards ſome years, and upwards other, as this? q.7. n.14

What's the Reaſon that his preſent Majeſty King William *has never yet* toucht for the Evil. q. 1. n. 15

Whether or no the Kings of Engl. *really cured the Diſeaſe call'd the Kings-Evil.* q.2. n.15

A Perſon who had the hard Fortune to be extreamly in Debt. q.3. n.15

Whether

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At what time of the Year was it that our Saviour was born? q. 1. n. 16

What did Solomon *mean by his not knowing the way of a young man with a Maid?* q.2. n.16

There was a poor Man a Carpenter, who in the exercise of his Trade cut off two of his Fingers. q. 3. n. 16

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Reader,

In these 12 *Numbers* are found some mistakes committed by the *Printer*, which the Authors are not accountable for.

The